AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

Claims 1. – 29. (*Canceled*).

30. (*Previously Presented*) A device for steeping barley, comprising

a container structured and arranged for steeping barley having a floor structured and arranged for supporting the barley;

passageways arranged in the floor for at least one of steeping water and gases to pass through; and

a water line system located under the floor and directly connected to the passageways.

31. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 30, wherein the water line system is structured to discharge water from the container through the passageways.

32. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 30, wherein the water line system is structured to supply water to the container through the passageways.

33. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 30, wherein the passageways include sieves.

34. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 30, wherein the container has a round shape when viewed from above, and wherein the passageways are arranged in radially oriented rows.

35. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 34, wherein adjacent radially oriented rows having varied lengths.

36. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 30, wherein the water line system comprises:

shared water line elements; and

water branch line elements arranged to couple the passageways to the shared water line elements.

37. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 36, wherein the shared water line elements are radially oriented.

38. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 36, wherein the shared water line elements are oriented between two adjacent, radially oriented rows of passageways when viewed from above.

39. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 36, further comprising a water line main element, wherein the shared water line elements are connected to the water main line element.

40. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 30, further comprising:

a reservoir for cleaning agents; and

a cleaning agent valve connecting the reservoir with the water line system to supply cleaning agent to the water line system.

41. (*Previously Presented*) The device according claim 30, further comprising:

a CO_2 line system located under the floor being connected directly to the passageways for removing CO_2 from the container.

42. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 41, wherein the CO_2 line system comprises:

shared CO_2 line elements; and

CO_2 branch line elements arranged to couple the passageways to the shared CO_2 line elements.

43. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 42, further comprising a CO_2 main line element, wherein the shared CO_2 line elements are connected to the CO_2 main line element.

44. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 43, wherein the water line system further comprises:

shared water line elements; and

water branch line elements arranged to couple the passageways to the shared water line elements; and

the device further comprises common shared line elements formed at least in part by the shared water line elements and the shared CO_2 line elements.

45. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 44, further comprising common branch line elements, wherein the water branch line elements and the CO_2 branch line elements are formed at least in part by the common branch line elements.

46. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 44, further comprising water valves between the common shared line elements and the water main line element.

47. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 44, further comprising CO_2 valves between the common shared line elements and the CO_2 main line element.

48. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 30, further comprising:

an air line system connected under the floor to the passageways for passing air to the container.

49. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 48, wherein the air line system further comprises:

shared air line elements; and

air branch line elements arranged to couple the passageways to the shared air line elements.

50. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 49, wherein the shared air line elements and the air branch line elements are located under the floor.

51. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 49, further comprising an air main line element, wherein the shared air line elements are connected to the air main line element.

52. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 51, further comprising air valves between the shared air line elements and the air main line element.

53. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 52, further comprising a control system for controlling individual or group operation of the air valves.

54. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 53, wherein the container further comprises:

a scraper body, positionable near an upper side of the container, structured and arranged to shift in a displacement direction along a surface of the water to one of scrape and collect elements circulating on a surface of the water.

55. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 54, wherein as the scraper body shifts in a displacement direction along the surface of the water, the control system opens at least one of the air valves directly preceding a front side of the scraper body when viewed from above in the displacement direction.

56. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 30, wherein the floor has a partially open, gas-permeable surface making up less than 5% of an overall floor surface.

57. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 30, wherein the floor has a partially open, gas-permeable surface making up less than 3% of an overall floor surface.

58. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 41, wherein the water and CO_2 line systems are graduated.

59. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 48, wherein the water and air line systems are graduated.

60. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 41, wherein the water and CO_2 line systems are routed to outside the container.

61. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 48, wherein the water and air line systems are routed to outside the container.

62. (*Currently amended*) A method for steeping barley, comprising:

at least one of:

passing water through passageways in a floor of a container with barley to be steeped, and

passing gas through the passageways,

wherein a water and gas supply line system is located outside of the container and is directly connected to the passageways.